



**REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-7, 9-12, and 39. Claim 38 was objected to as been duplicative. Claim 38 has been canceled.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date:

February 9, 2004

Michael D. Schumann  
Reg. No. 30,422  
JAL:JEL

